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# The Hongkong Telegraph

Printed and Published for the Proprietor by **Shan**  
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.  
Dine At the  
**P. G.**  
For Reservations Tel: 27880

VOL. III NO. 58

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1948.

Price 20 Cents

## New Traffic System For Kowloon

### Double-Decker Buses In August

Double decker buses, to take over the Kowloon bus system early in August, will necessitate revision of the entire traffic scheme at the Star Ferry and along Nathan Road.

A number of new traffic layouts are now being considered by the Town Planning Committee and the Police's traffic department.

The main object will be to arrange a direct flow of passengers to and from the ferry without making it necessary for pedestrians to cross lines of privately owned vehicles and public buses in order to reach taxi and bus terminals, as is now mandatory.

To do this, the present bus stop will be taken out and replaced by a bus stop parallel and directly adjacent to the ferry wharf. A taxi stop will be arranged at another point parallel and directly adjacent to the wharf. A third point on the parallel curb will be arranged for embarking and alighting from private vehicles. In this way, no pedestrian will have to cross the flow of traffic to reach any vehicle.

### The Banyan Trees

Banyan trees along Nathan Road present another problem for the double deckers.

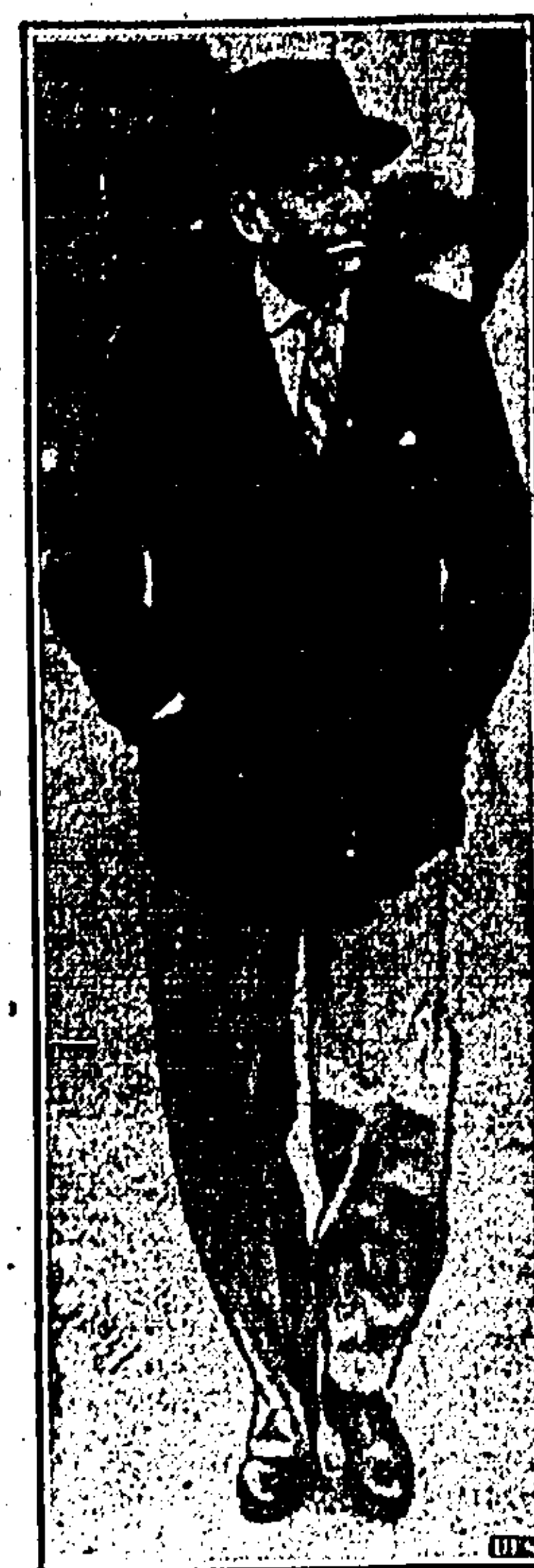
The Traffic Department has submitted a plan whereby white lines will be drawn outside the trees and parallel with the curb. The buses will run outside these white lines except at stopping points, which will be marked and placed at convenient and treeless points along the curb.

Other points inside the white line, not marked as bus stops, will be reserved for private parking. At present private parking along the shopping districts of Nathan Road is illegal.

### Shanghai Daylight Saving Date

Shanghai, Mar. 11.—Daylight saving time will come into effect in Shanghai from April 1 according to a decision of the Electricity Supply Commission yesterday, which, however, has yet to be ratified by the Shanghai Municipal Government. The commission's decision to begin daylight saving earlier than in former years is prompted by the necessity of economising on power consumption. —Reuter.

## JUMPED TO HIS DEATH



THE LATE JAN MASARYK

# State Funeral For Jan Masaryk

## WORLD SHOCKED BY HIS TRAGIC DEATH

## Suicide Described As An Expression Of Despair

Prague, Mar. 10.—Dr Jan Masaryk, the 61-year-old Foreign Minister and son of M. Thomas Masaryk, founder of the Czech Republic, who jumped to his death from a window early today, is to be given a State funeral on Saturday with full military honours. The funeral procession will move through the city to Lany, the burial place of M. Thomas Masaryk. Lany is to be renamed Masarykovy Lany.

When the Czech Parliament held its first session since the crisis brought a Communist-dominated government into power, a huge pile of red and white flowers covered the seat Dr Masaryk should have occupied.

All flags on public buildings were flown at half mast and people gathered in groups in the streets, but there were no demonstrations.

M. Václav Nosek, the Minister of the Interior, made a short statement in Parliament after which the Speaker adjourned the Assembly for five minutes as a mark of mourning. M. Nosek said that during the previous evening, Dr Masaryk had been reading telegrams from his friends in America and Britain, expressing disappointment at what M. Nosek called "his brave behaviour" in joining the new government—an action which surprised Western observers.

Opposition supporters here were saying today that the suicide was an expression of despair at the situation in which the country finds itself.

Last week, after the new Government had been formed, Dr Masaryk, a life-long friend of Britain and America, declared: "My place is together with the people I love. You may reckon on me, I am one of you".

The news of the suicide caused great disturbance among members of the Government, and the first reaction of the authorities was to cut off all communications from abroad. These were restored after the official announcement.

It is thought here that the Foreign Minister's death will have few political repercussions, but he was one of the most popular figures in Czechoslovak public life, both for his political views—he was non-party—and for his downright way of expressing himself.

M. Nosek, in his statement to Parliament, disclosed that Dr Masaryk's body was found half an hour after he threw himself from his window this morning.

Last night after President Benes received the new Polish Ambassador, Dr Masaryk stayed behind after the others in the party had left and talked with Dr Benes, M. Nosek said.

## RUSSIA WILL COMPROMISE

During the evening, Dr Masaryk had been his usual good spirit, but in the night a nervous crisis had developed. He was unable to sleep. Many cigarette ends were found in his room.

The crisis reached its climax at six o'clock this morning. (Local time). M. Nosek continued. Unable to control himself any longer, Dr Masaryk went into a bathroom adjoining his bedroom and threw himself from the window.

In the recent crisis, Dr Masaryk had gone without hesitation to the side of the people's cause, and for that reason had become the object of invective attacks, M. Nosek said. "A good man has passed away," M. Nosek added.

## PRAGUE MOURNS

Prague was a city of mourning with black flags flying in the breeze. Citizens stunned by the news, gathered round black-corded posters announcing it.

It was not known tonight whether Dr Masaryk had left any letter of farewell, Prague Radio spoke of "depression", while Opposition supporters used the word "despair".

One of those likely to be most affected by Dr Masaryk's death is President Benes, who loses not only a personal friend but the only representative of Western thought left to support him in any attempt to put a brake to the policy of the new National Front.

The President is believed to be heartbroken at the tragic end to the life of his greatest friend and leader. Dr Masaryk's death has spread a depression among those who, like Dr Benes, had defined their policy as "East and West" carried black-draped photographs of Dr Masaryk in their windows with accounts of his life. Newspapers brought out special editions. The Communist organ, Rude Pravo, gave only a passing mention of his death.

World-wide reactions. News despatches from many parts of the world described today the profound impression caused by the news of the suicide in Prague.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman declared: "Nothing could more clearly demonstrate the character of the recent events in Czechoslovakia and her betrayal by a minority taking its orders from abroad."

Asked if Dr Masaryk's suicide might have been influenced by criticism abroad, the spokesman said criticisms were directed, not against Dr Masaryk personally, but against the recent events in Czechoslovakia.

The following is a selection of telegrams from Reuter correspondents in other centres:

Paris: French diplomatic circles saw the final proof of a total collapse of freedom in Czechoslovakia in Dr Masaryk's death, which should serve as a reminder to the Western European powers and the United States of the urgent need for joining their forces, economic, political and military, in a practical manner.

Frankfurt: Czechs who fled into the German zone of Germany after the Communist coup heard the news with shocked surprise.

One Czech said it might have the effect of "stiffening the resistance" within the country.

MASARYK'S DILEMMA. The German Democratic leader, Dr. Schuberth, said at his headquarters in Hanover: "Dr Masaryk's suicide illustrates the dilemma of a man who, in a situation like that in Czechoslovakia, (Continued on Page 4)

## "Reign Of Terror" In Czechoslovakia

Washington, Mar. 10.—Czechoslovakia is now under a "reign of terror", Mr George Marshall, the Secretary of State, said today.

Speaking of the suicide of Dr Jan Masaryk, today, Mr Marshall said: "It is tragic to have the things happening that have happened in Czechoslovakia, particularly what has happened to some of the officials as in the affair today of Dr Masaryk."

The American State Department said: "The tragic death of Dr Jan Masaryk has deepened the shadow cast on the observance a few days ago of the birthday anniversary of his father, Thomas Masaryk, by the extinction of Czechoslovak liberties which Thomas Masaryk founded." —Reuter.

## Chennault Pleads Military Aid For China

Washington, Mar. 10.—Military aid to China would help stop "Russian aggression" in Europe, Major General Claire Chennault, who commanded the "Flying Tigers" volunteer air force in China before the outbreak of the Pacific War, told the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee today.

General Chennault, who flew here from China to give evidence on the \$570,000,000 Aid to China Bill, said failure to assist the Nanking Government would inevitably set the stage for World War III.

The general, now retired from the Army, heads a commercial airline in China.

The general told Congressmen: "China's enormous population could furnish almost unlimited manpower for military operations if properly trained, equipped and supplied."

"At least, the fact that they could not be dominated and trained as slave labour by Russian masters would be of utmost value to us."

"It is not difficult to understand why Russia would not voluntarily launch an offensive in Europe so long as China remains uncommenced."

"Nor should it be hard to understand why a third world war is improbable if China remains our friend and ally."

## STATEMENT SUMMARISED

General Chennault read a 13-page statement which ended with this summary:

"Firstly, world peace is definitely threatened by the worldwide expansion plans of the Communist leaders."

"Secondly, a strong, independent anti-Communist Chinese National Government constitutes our only hope of halting the spread of Communism in Asia and of preserving the peace of the world."

"China, because of its strategic geographical position, must be included in any overall plan for resisting the spread of Communism, for if China goes Communist, all of continental Asia will quickly follow and there will be no continental bases left to us."

"Thirdly, after more than 10 years of continuous warfare, China has almost reached the end of her resources. She must have substantial military, economic and financial aid to gain a little more hard currency, and she must have a Communist National Government to survive."

"The alternative is a Communist anti-American government."

## DOUBTFUL ASSET

"While we have concentrated our attention upon Europe, whose value is doubtful as an asset for the prevention of war or for the winning of a war which may be forced upon us, the Communists are pushing on rapidly with their plan for communising China."

"The Communist record in Asia since V-E Day indicates unmistakably that they have a very definite, well orientated plan for the communisation of continental Asia."

"It is my firm belief that the Communists will gain a complete lack in the West until they have secured their eastern continental front by the communisation of China at least."

"It is also my firm belief that if, and when, China is communised, we will be confronted immediately with the necessity for deciding whether we will engage in a third world war, or retire to the defence of the American continents."

"It is obvious that under such conditions, our chance of defending the European states which remain outside the iron curtain at that time will not only be extremely doubtful but enormously expensive."

## KEY TO WORLD PEACE

"In my opinion, China is the key to world peace, or to victory if a third world war is precipitated by accident or design."

"The leaders of Communism intend to communise all the nations of the world, either by peaceful infiltration and internal revolution, or by force of arms," General Chennault went on.

"I believe these men to be sincere when they proclaim they do not want war. War is destructive and they greatly prefer infiltration and internal revolution, but their emphasis on military preparations, and their refusal consistently to participate in a peaceful democratic world (Continued on Page 4)

## NEW CZECH CONSTITUTION TO BE DRAFTED AFRESH

Prague, Mar. 10.—M. Klement Gottwald, the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, speaking in the Czech Parliament today at its first session since the crisis, declared: "We want nothing but a fair deal and no interference in our internal affairs."

M. Gottwald spoke when the Czech Parliament resumed after a five-minute adjournment as a mark of mourning for Dr Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister, who had committed suicide earlier in the day.

"Let us say publicly that Czechoslovakia is and remains a faithful and reliable member of the Slav family and that she feels as an ally of the other countries where popular democracy is established," M. Gottwald said.

"This does not exclude that we shall do everything possible on our part to preserve good relations with all other states, but this must be based on reciprocity."

The Prime Minister announced that the new Czech Constitution—the preparation of which, by a special committee, was uncompleted when the crisis broke—would be drafted afresh.

"It was originally intended that the new constitution should be ready for the general elections, set for May."

He stressed the leniency exercised in nationalisation, adding that persons concerned "in the hunt for profit, however, cared very little for law, morality and clean hands."

On the political consequences of the recent Cabinet crisis, M. Gottwald said that only "rejuvenated" political parties and non-party organisations could become members of the new National Front.

The agents of reaction must get out of these parties and organisations.

At the end of M. Gottwald's five-minute speech, all members stood and cheered him.—Reuter.

## Austrian Peace Treaty Statement

London, Mar. 10.—The Russian delegate, N. P. Koltimov, indicated at a meeting of the deadlocked Deputy Foreign Ministers on Wednesday that the Soviet Union is willing to compromise with the Western Powers on an Austrian peace treaty.

Russia "will not insist upon every letter of the Soviet proposal," he told the Deputies who met for the 74th time without agreement on Russian claims for former German assets in Austria.

Reporting this new Russian approach, a British observer quoted Samuel Reber, U.S. Deputy, as saying that the time has come to build a bridge across the gap separating Russian and Western views.

Russian claims include \$200,000,000 in cash within two years, two-thirds of the nation's oil production for 50 years and control of the Danube Shipping Company.—Associated Press.

## EDITORIAL

### The Anti-TB Problem

DR T. P. Wu estimates that the incidence of Tuberculosis in Hongkong is 100,000 a year, with a death rate of 10,000. These are fearful figures which demand that tackling of the problem be placed at the top of the list of essential social and welfare work.

The main burden of the fight falls upon the Hongkong Anti-TB Association, an officially recognised voluntary organisation whose executive officers possess a clear vision, not only of the immensity of the problem, but of the most effective methods of solving it.

Their business, as usual, is money. A limited amount of curative work involves annual average cost of \$2,500 per bed, and if the Association is eventually to expand its activities to mitigation of infection by segregation, and finally to preventive work, it will probably require an annual endowment of anything up to \$5,000,000. These too are frightening figures and possibly Hongkong will not be able to afford the full anti-TB service of which it is so painfully in need, for some years to come.

Wisely, the Anti-TB Association is taking first things first. Its initial objective is a sanatorium for curative treatment—a costly undertaking, but made realisable in the comparatively near future by Government's willingness to hand over the old Naval Hospital site in Vancow when it is surrendered by the Admiralty and by the generous gift of \$500,000 by Mr. J. H. Ruttonjee. There will be general approval, too, that Government intends to identify itself with the scheme even further by an annual contribution

of \$150,000. These are gestures which should encourage the community generally to give as freely as possible to the fund which will build and maintain a sanatorium. Even when these facilities are available, the work of the Association will be extremely arduous. At present the sanatorium is designed to provide 100 beds, which, in the light of Dr Wu's estimated rate of incidence, affords small scope for combating Tuberculosis. Nevertheless, so pitifully inadequate are present facilities, that a sanatorium will constitute the most progressive step yet made against this endemic disease in Hongkong. The problem here is complex, and its solution, as Dr Wu has pointed out, is hindered as much by ignorance as by overcrowding, lack of hygiene and nutritional misconceptions. Fear too, of modern treatment, is a handicap already paying some attention to this aspect of its work, but possibly the propaganda field could be widened and directed in such a manner that many of the fears which now discourage so many from seeking their infection, will be removed. As for the more immediate requirements—subscriptions for the construction and maintenance of a sanatorium—we gladly commend it to the public for most sympathetic and generous support.



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BRITISH FASHIONS FOR HOME & OVERSEAS,  
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## CENTRAL THEATRE

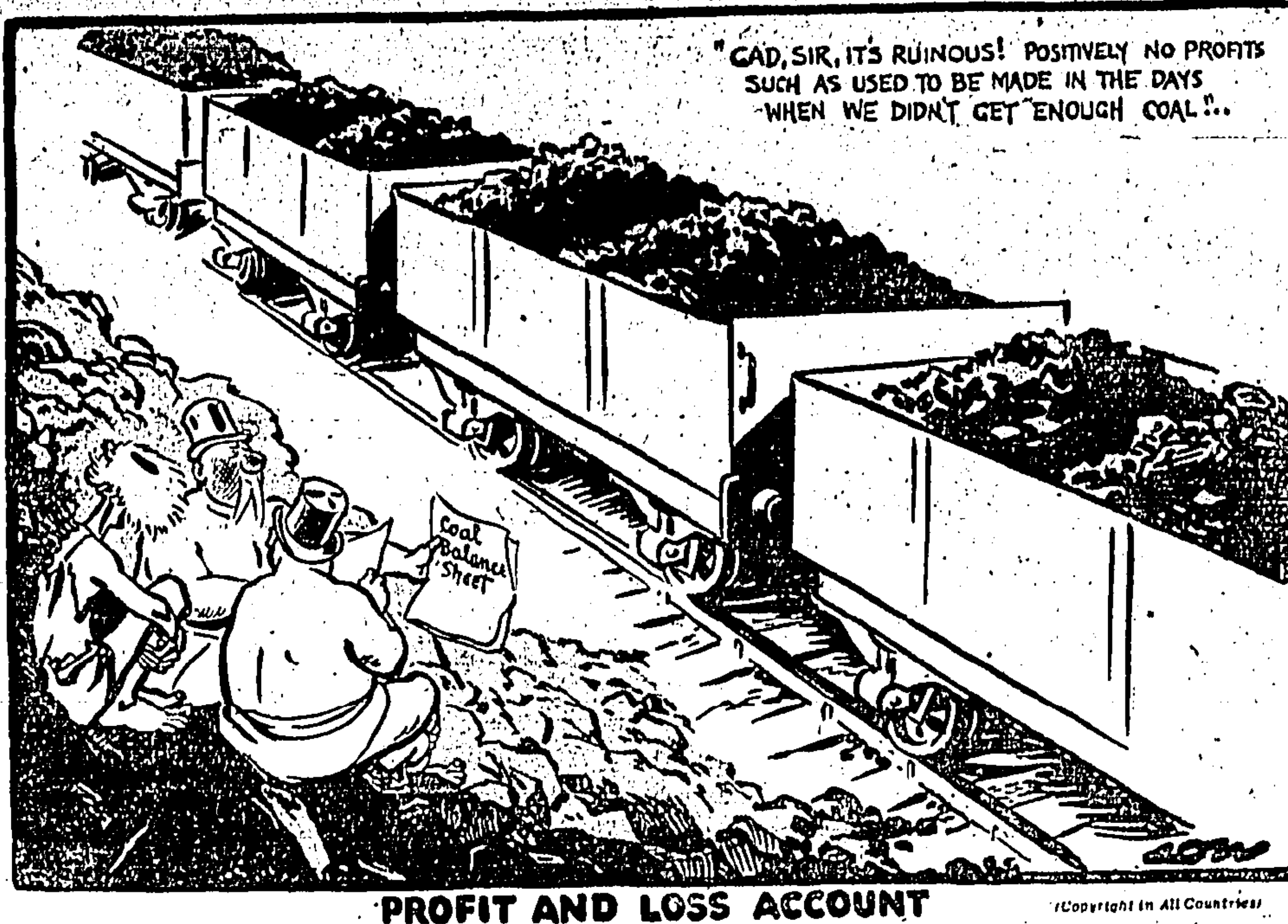
5 SHOWS DAILY  
AT 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

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ROUGH ON THE MORI TOUGH ON THE MOLLS!  
George RAFT Pat O'BRIEN Janet BLAIR In  
"BROADWAY" ANNE GWYNNENEXT CHANGE THE TROPICAL TRIP OF YOUR DREAMS!  
"HAPPY GO LUCKY"  
Starring Mary MARTIN Dick POWELL Betty HUTTON

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

## A BRITISH BUSINESSMAN VISITS JAPAN

By a Correspondent of the 'Financial Times'

IT is difficult for a British trader to visit Japan today without coming away with a feeling of frustration. Not that the American officials, who are the real power in the land, do not try to be helpful.

But the British businessman starts willy-nilly with so many disadvantages—no air mail arrangements, no telephone communication with London, inadequate telegraphic facilities—that he feels hopelessly ill-equipped to cope with the bureaucratic wrangling, which commercial dealings of any sort always involve. He is surrounded on all sides by bureaucratic machinery—and the machinery tends to creak.

Direct commercial dealings between the Japanese and the foreign businessmen are still not permitted. All negotiations for the export of goods must go through the Japanese Board of Trade (Boeki Cho). That would be bad enough.

## Ultimate Decision

BUT, in fact, Boeki Cho is not the real authority: the ultimate decision rests with SCAP (Supreme Command for the Allied Powers).

The channels of communication between the foreign trader and the Japanese manufacturer tend therefore to be somewhat sluggish, passing as they do through the ramifications of two entirely separate bureaucratic organisations.

Quite apart from the inevitable delays which this procedure involves, the day-to-day practice of officialdom varies and is often extremely hard to follow.

Perhaps the most vexed problem in this connection is the rate of exchange between the dollar and yen. Since there is no direct exchange between the yen and any other foreign currency, this matter is fundamental for the British trader in Japan.

## Exchange Rate

THE official rate is about 50 yen to the dollar; but if this rate were made effective for Japan's export trade the results in terms of prices would in most cases be quite fantastic.

The costs on which the Japanese manufacturer bases his prices are, naturally enough, based on the internal cost of living and here the real relationship between the two currencies is nearer 300-400 yen to \$1.

In order to obviate the discrepancies between the internal and external prices, which must therefore arise, SCAP has invented a "sliding rate of exchange".

This is supposed to bring Japanese prices into relation with those ruling on world markets.

The object is laudable enough, but the procedure whereby it is translated into practice sometimes has a nightmarish quality.

World prices are taken—not unnaturally, since officials are themselves American—as those current in New York or Chicago.

The method of determining the true price of any Japanese product

under discussion can therefore on occasion be startlingly simple. "Gladys," says the official to his secretary, "tossing the article concerned on to her desk, "what would you reckon to pay for this back home?" Gladys states her views. "Oh, about four dollars." "Four dollars it is, then."

And if the Japanese manufacturer has previously demanded 800 yen for it, the rate of exchange is thereby fixed at 200 yen to the dollar.

## Extreme Case

Now this is undoubtedly an extreme case; it would be wrong to regard it as typical of the everyday procedure in the commercial departments of SCAP.

Nevertheless, the same basic principle, that of using a more or less arbitrary U.S. price level to determine the "true" rate of exchange for a manufacturer in Kobe or Osaka, was in evidence in other seemingly more sophisticated calculations.

Frequently, no proper allowance is made for retail and wholesale margins or for transport costs. And when these obvious errors are avoided, the rough-and-ready method of calculation is responsible for some curious results.

For instance, there was a case when a large consignment of made-up textiles of widely varying quality was assessed for an average price (providing the basis for a "fair" rate of exchange) on a purely weight basis—no account being taken of the large differences in processing costs between one article and another.

## Ad Hoc Body

IN fairness to SCAP, two things should be said. One, it is an ad hoc organisation and regards itself as such.

It is not surprising that an efficient army headquarters suddenly converted into an export-import agency cum Ministry of Finance covering the economic activities of some 80 million people should find difficulty in coping with some of the problems it has to face.

Secondly, the SCAP officials themselves were, on the whole, adaptable people, ready in most cases to admit and rectify mistakes when it could be shown they had been made.

Furthermore, they are evidently concerned to avoid any suggestion of discrimination against non-American businessmen.

Whether the individual policy decisions formulated at the highest level are based on the highest level of equality of opportunity is, however, more doubtful.

Dealings in important commodities like cotton have up till now been entirely centralised in the hands of two American organisations, the C.C.C. (Commodity Credit Corporation) and the U.S.C.C. (United States Commercial Company).

The former buys raw materials and disposes of them to the Japanese; the latter is concerned with finished products manufactured by Japanese, which it sells on the world market.

This system of monopoly trading both at the supply and distribution ends gives decisive advantages to American interests.

In the case of cotton it means that quantities of low-grade cotton are needed for dollars in the U.S. market and then the finished textiles are sold later, wherever dollars can be obtained for them.

A sizable profit can be made at both stages of the process. The U.S.C.C.—the selling organisation—has ceased to operate since the beginning of the New Year.

But during the autumn when I was in Japan it was the sole authority for the sale of cotton textiles, in which I was interested.

The new arrangement which transfers the functions of the U.S.C.C. to a recently formed Japanese Trading Committee, should, judging from my own experience, make things easier for the private trader.

The U.S.C.C. would conduct its negotiations on a Government-to-Government basis only, and in consequence the individual businessman had to place his orders through an official buying mission.

## Urgent Need

THE demise of the U.S.C.C. will therefore complete one stage in the process of simplifying the relationship between buyer and seller in the Japanese market.

Much still remains to be done. For instance, there is an urgent need for the services of the old Japanese merchant firms.

Before the war foreign trade was conducted largely through them, and the typical foreign importer relied on them to obtain the merchandise required at the most economical price.

Today, owing to the prohibition of private trade, they are unable to fulfil their proper functions. Every thing has to go through Boeki Cho, the Japanese Board of Trade.

Recently, some attempt has been made to circumvent this particular difficulty by allowing the Japanese merchant firms to act as "agents" for foreign traders.

## Ultimate Authority

THE compromise is a typical product of the present state of transition of the Japanese economy.

Boeki Cho is still the ultimate authority and in theory the foreign trader must negotiate with it alone; the "agent" is let in, so to say, by the back door, and he must try to find a place for himself wherever he thinks there is work to be done.

But for the British trader all these things appear as inconveniences, compared with the overriding difficulty of currency control—or better still, the lack of it.

There is no yen-sterling rate. Indeed, I had the impression on more than one occasion that several of the officials concerned with the matter had only the vaguest notion what "sterling" really was.

Certainly, there seemed to be no appreciation of the fact that over 20 percent of Japan's prewar trade took place with countries that are now in the sterling area, and that Japanese rehabilitation was being hampered by the lack of the financial

## BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

COLONEL WRETCH stared angrily at Wugwell. Then, unaccountably, he used the very words which had started the uproar—"To what do I owe the pleasure—?"

He got no further. At the word-pleasure the cheering broke out again. Never was there a happier little group.

Moreover, the festive sounds induced other members of Wugwell's circus, who had been lurking in the grounds, to slip in through side doors or open windows, and so mingle with the throng in the drawing-room.

There were Battista the Snake-Woman, and Lo Fung the Human Wheelbarrow, and Fifiella, Empress of the Tightrope. And soon the dwarfs had begun to tumble and leap, and the Persians were using a loose book-shelf to improvise a saw.

## Innocent gaiety

IN a corner of the room the Colonel was roaring at his wife, demanding an explanation of this strange incursion. But Mrs Wretch could not make herself heard. By now the dwarfs had begun to be impudent. Churm Rincewind was shouting, "Send up tea for forty!" and Scorpion de Rooftrouser, Edeledele Edell and Moloney Tubberborst were playing trains round and round Amaninter, Axling and Listeria Youghaupt. Franks Gillygottle was half way up the chimney and Guttergorm Guttergormton was barking at him. Anselmo was producing the flags of all the nations from his mouth. Never had the rafters of Wretch Manor rung with such wholehearted merriment.

## Among the books

How to Feed Ferrets, by Constance Blood: In a modest foreword Miss Blood says that she has done nothing but feed ferrets for thirty-one years. If this is true her book should become a standard work on ferret-feeding.

Whither, Formosa? by Marcus Draht, M. A.: Those who prefer the burly-burly of politics to the more domestic annals of the lowly ferret will be deeply interested in this account of a six months' tour of Formosa. The author was one of the party of six M.P.s whose mission of good will ended so abruptly.

Unfermented Fish, by Timothy Tailboyes: These poems, by the author of "Bunt Crocker," show a mastery of form and language equalled only by an almost physical integrity of subject.

## Giant boxer caught in mouse-trap

The shepherd on the lonely height, wrapped in his warm overcoat. (Morning paper).

"ALWAYS keep the oversteep separated from the overgoats," commented a well-known passer-by.

## FACTS

JULIUS Caesar designed the first calendar 2,000 years ago.

Hand grenades were used by U.S. Marines who served under John Paul Jones during the American Revolution.

Dandelion comes from the French denta-de-lion, meaning teeth of lion. It was so called because the leaves of this plant are notched like lions' teeth in profile.

Rings of a tree tell not merely the age, but the history of droughts, periods of factors affecting a tree's health.

Undulant fever in humans is traceable to Bang's disease in cattle as well as to brucellosis in swine, according to the University of Illinois Agriculture College.

A pig with pneumonia usually has chills and fever, accompanied by difficult and rapid breathing, commonly called "thumps."

A device so sensitive it can weigh a fingerprint is one of the research tools being used by scientists in tests aimed at improving jet engines.

An American manufacturing company reports that one of its merchandising experts began his career as a door-to-door salesman, offering "No Peddlers Allowed" signs.

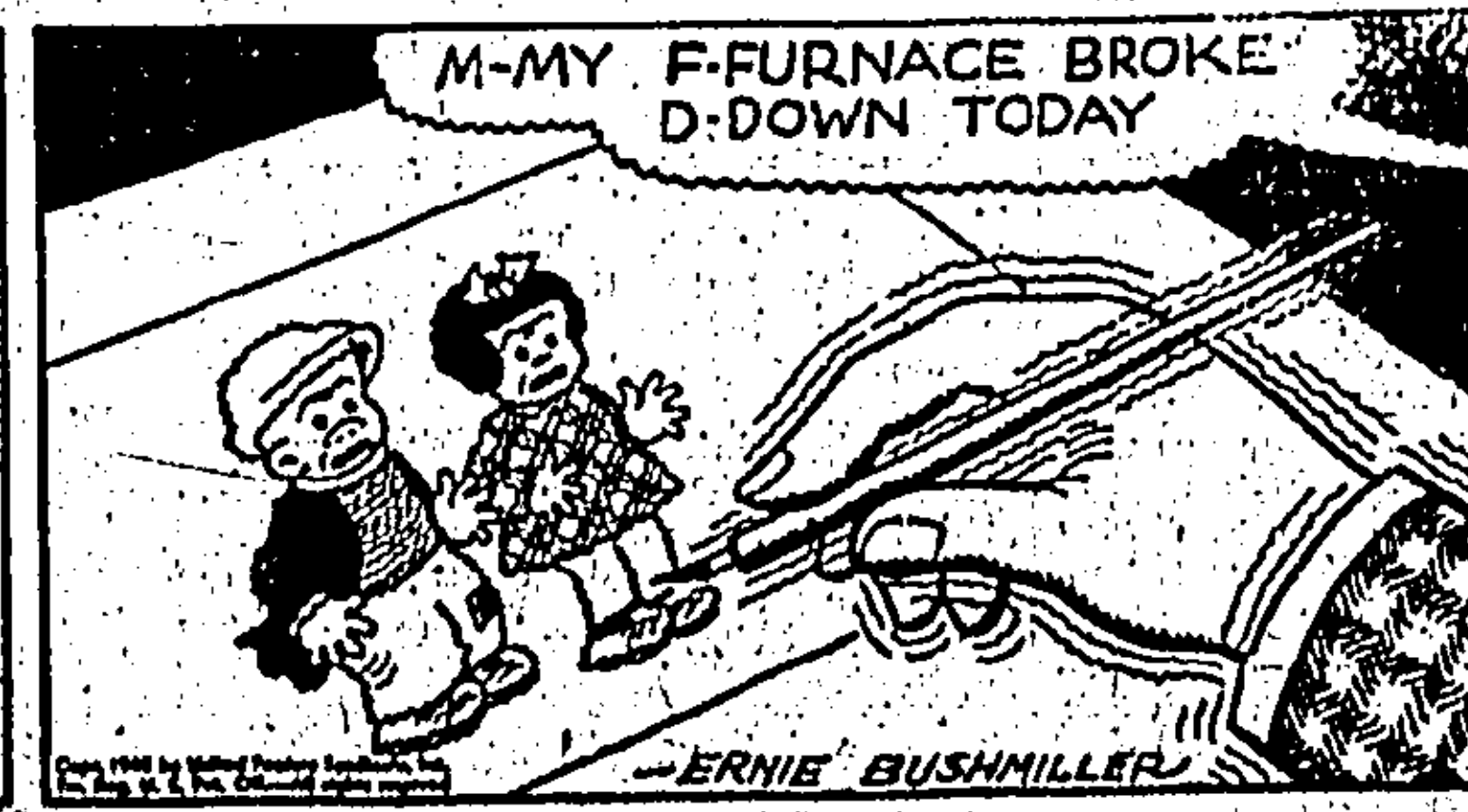
Constant brown or black discoloration of the skin about the ankles is characteristic of an insufficiency of venous circulation.

According to J. Edgar Hoover, 85 to 90 percent of the driving accidents in many large cities are caused directly by persons who break traffic laws.

The Black Hills area of South Dakota is said to be the oldest mountain area on the North American continent.

A mature milk cow will drink an average of 16 gallons of water a day; a horse, 10; a pig, two, and a sheep, one gallon.

NANCY ... And It's C-c-c-cold



By Ernie Bushmiller









